

1608765604

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM  
for the  
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

<b>1. NAME</b>				
COMMON:				
AND/OR HISTORIC: Baltzley Castles				
<b>2. LOCATION</b>				
STREET AND NUMBER: Glen Echo				
CITY OR TOWN:				
STATE Maryland			COUNTY: Montgomery	
<b>3. CLASSIFICATION</b>				
<b>CATEGORY</b> (Check One)		<b>OWNERSHIP</b>		<b>STATUS</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object		<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress
		<b>Public Acquisition:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered		<b>ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC</b> <b>Yes:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
<b>PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)</b>				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Religious    _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> Museum <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific    _____				
<b>4. OWNER OF PROPERTY</b>				
OWNER'S NAME: Two private owners				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	
<b>5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION</b>				
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Montgomery County Courthouse				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN: Rockville			STATE: Maryland	
Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):				
<b>6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS</b>				
TITLE OF SURVEY: None				
DATE OF SURVEY: <input type="checkbox"/> Federal <input type="checkbox"/> State <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Local				
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:				
STREET AND NUMBER:				
CITY OR TOWN:			STATE:	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The three houses are all built on irregular plans of stone with hipped roofs. Two of the houses have basically square plans, with asymmetrical wings and bays; the third, the home of Edwin Baltzley, has a rectangular central section flanked by towers. Certain features are recurrent themes on all the buildings. The chimneys are flush with the exterior wall and have brick stacks; the fireplaces are reflected on the exterior walls by a bulge or projection outward of the wall surface. Heavy porch posts are turned and carry heavy brackets supporting the porch roof cornice. Windows are generally large and set irregularly in the wall surface, but occasionally a small window lights an alcove or staircase.

The Edwin Baltzley house is the largest. It sits on a high foundation, with a four story elevation on the downhill facade. The towers flanking the facade are round and rectangular respectively; the central bay projects forward on the ground floor and has a Flemish gabled dormer in the attic. The "boxed" cornice is made of blocks of stone supported by stone corbellings.

The Edward Baltzley house is next to the brother's house. It is square in plan with a porch across the downhill facade. The facade has a central gable; on the sides there are bays and porches that break up the square mass. The frieze is a wide wooden board, with a cornice above.

The third house is also square in plan, with wings on each side set asymetrically. Between the wings and main block are porches, the one on the main facade curving around a tower that joins the main block and wing.

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## B. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Pre-Columbian      ☐ 16th Century      ☐ 18th Century      ☐ 20th Century  
☐ 15th Century      ☐ 17th Century      ☒ 19th Century

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- |  |   |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal              | <input type="checkbox"/> Education              | <input type="checkbox"/> Political           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric             | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering            | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic                | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry               | <input type="checkbox"/> Science             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture             | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention              | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture           | _____  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature             | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater             | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce                | <input type="checkbox"/> Military               | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation      | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications          | <input type="checkbox"/> Music                  |  | _____  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation            |   |  | _____  |

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 1889, Edwin and Edward Baltzley bought some land on the heights overlooking the Potomac River and planned to build a permanent community of picturesque and rustic stone houses. Five stone quarries were opened to provide stone in a range of colors and electricity was promised to all residents who wanted it. Roads and building lots were laid out, and a large stone hotel, the Monican, was planned; transportation by electrical railway was also part of the plan, and the one part that was achieved. By 1890 a cafe was built of unhewn logs and named the Paw-taw<sup>o</sup>-meck; it included several dining rooms, river overlooks, and an observation tower. On 29 November 1890, the cafe burned down and subsequently, the Glen Echo Chatuqua emerged as the plan for the developing area.

The only homes that survive, and perhaps the only ones built as part of the Baltzley plan, are three large stone castle-like houses built on the edge of the heights overlooking the Potomac River.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Benjamini Levy, Glen Echo Chataugua on the Potomac  
(n.p.: U.S. Department of the Interior, 1967), pp. 3-6

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

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## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Christopher Owens, Park Historian	
ORGANIZATION M-NCPPC	DATE 11 Sept 74
STREET AND NUMBER: 8787 Georgia Avenue	
CITY OR TOWN: Silver Spring	STATE Maryland

## 12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

M: 35-29  
Baltzley Castles  
5415, 5417, and 5446 Mohican Road, Bethesda  
Falls Church Quad

